

## Appendix

List of performance indicators for hypertension in the United Kingdom Pay-For-Performance policy (The Quality and Outcomes Framework; QOF)

<b>Indicator</b>
<b>Records</b>
BP 1. The practice can produce a register of patients with established hypertension
<b>Diagnosis and initial management</b>
BP 2. The percentage of patients with hypertension whose notes record smoking status at least once since diagnosis
BP 3. The percentage of patients with hypertension who smoke, whose notes contain a record that smoking cessation advice or referral to a specialist service, if available, has been offered at least once
<b>Ongoing Management</b>
BP 4. The percentage of patients with hypertension in whom there is a record of the blood pressure in the past 9 months
BP 5. The percentage of patients with hypertension in whom the last blood pressure (measured in the last 9 months) is 150/90 or less

**Note:** The QOF pays general practitioners on a points based system (Each indicator is worth a certain number of points). Some indicators (such as BP 5) are 'tiered'; a practice gets points for meeting a low threshold of performance, a medium amount of points for meeting certain intermediate thresholds, and the maximum number of points for meeting the highest threshold. The highest threshold, above which no additional increase in performance will yield additional payments is 70%.